

REMARKS

In this Amendment, claims 1, 12, 14, 18, 31, 34, 40, 51 and 53 are amended, and claims 9, 13 and 39 are canceled. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1-7, 10-12, 14-22, 25, 27, 29-38, 40-47, and 50-53 will be pending.

Specifically, the claims are amended as follows.

Independent claims 1, 34 and 51 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 13 or 39, which are canceled.

Claims 12, 14, and 18 are amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 31 is amended to depend from claim 27.

Claims 14, 40, and 53 are further amended to be consistent with the independent claims.

No new matter has been introduced.

Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

I. Response to Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

At page 3 of the Office Action, claim 31 is rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, because it depends from canceled claim 28.

Claim 31 has been amended to depend from claim 27, to correct this error.

Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

II. Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

At pages 3-11 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-12, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 25, 27, 29, 34-38, 40, 41, 43, 46, 47, and 50-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kinoshita et al. (US 2003/0179381).

Claims 3, 13, 16, 18-20, 31, 39, 42, 44 and 45 are not rejected over Kinoshita, and at pages 13-14 of the Office Action are indicated as being allowable.

The subject matter of claims 13 and 39 has been incorporated into independent claims 1, 34 and 51, from which all other claims depend either directly or indirectly.

Accordingly, the amended claims are not anticipated by Kinoshita, and thus withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

III. Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

At pages 11-13 of the Office Action, claims 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Kinoshita et al. (US 2003/0179381), and further in view of Li et al. (U.S. Patent 6,392,756).

Claims 3, 13, 16, 18-20, 31, 39, 42, 44 and 45 are not rejected over Kinoshita in view of Li et al, and at pages 13-14 of the Office Action are indicated as being allowable.

The subject matter of claims 13 and 39 has been incorporated into independent claims 1, 34 and 51, from which all other claims depend either directly or indirectly.

Thus, the amended claims are not obvious over Kinoshita in view of Li et al., and therefore withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No. 10/733,450

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

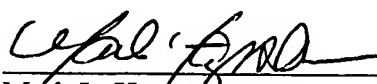
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